

Hemp, Robert LT

Sent:
Subject:

Sunday, July 15, 2001 6:46 PM
P 152241Z JUL 01,SITREP-POL TWO/ACTUAL MAJOR, METHYL MERCAPTAN AND
CHLORINE,COGARD MSO DETROIT MI

P 152241Z JUL 01
FM COGARD MSO DETROIT MI
TO CCGDNINE CLEVELAND OH//CC/M//
INFO COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC//G-MOR/G-OPF//
COMLANTAREA COGARD PORTSMOUTH VA//AM/ACC//
COGARD NATIONAL RESPONSE CENTER WASHINGTON DC
COGARD NSFCC ELIZABETH CITY NC
COGARD AST FORT DIX NJ
COMCOGARDGRU DETROIT MI
COGARD AIRSTA DETROIT MI
COMCOGARD NPFC WASHINGTON DC
COGARD FINCEN CHESAPEAKE VA//ORGQ//
COMCOGARD MLC LANT NORFOLK VA//FCP-2//
HQ EPA WASHINGTON DC
US EPA REGION V CHICAGO
COGARD STA BELLE ISLE MI
COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC//G-MOR/G-OPF//
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COMCOGARD MLC LANT NORFOLK VA//FCP-2//
HQ EPA WASHINGTON DC
US EPA REGION V CHICAGO
COGARD STA BELLE ISLE MI
BT
UNCLAS //N16465//
OPER/ATOFINA CHEMICAL PLANT HAZMAT RELEASE//
MSGID/SITREP-POL/COGARD MSO DETROIT MI/-//
SUBJ/SITREP-POL TWO/ACTUAL MAJOR, METHYL MERCAPTAN AND CHLORINE
RELEASE, RAIL CAR FIRE, ADJACENT TO TRENTON CHANNEL, RIVERVIEW, MI, MC
01008815, CPN C01124//
RMKS/1. SITUATION.

A. OVERVIEW: SITUATION AS BEFORE, RAIL CAR TANK FIRE
EXTINGUISHED, WITH RP AND RESPONSE CONTRACTOR ASSESSING OPTIONS ON HOW
TO REMOVE REMAINING PRODUCT FROM 5 TANK CARS AT SITE. A TOTAL OF 5
LOADED RAIL CARS WERE WITHIN SITE LOCATION, 3 LOADED WITH CHLORINE AND
2 WITH METHYL MERCAPTAN. OF THESE TWO, ONE WAS INVOLVED AND HEAVILY
DAMAGED IN FIRE; ONLY TRACE AMOUNTS OF CHEMICAL, IF ANY, REMAIN IN IT.
3 OF 5 CARS NOT DAMAGED AT ALL. IN ADDITION TO DAMAGED RAIL CAR NOTED
ABOVE, 1 CHLORINE CAR SUSTAINED SOME HEAT DAMAGE TO PIPING AND
FLANGES, WHICH CAUSED MINOR CHLORINE RELEASE ON SAT 14 JUN. LEAKS
WERE PATCHED AND STABILIZED. THAT CAR REMAINS GREATEST SOURCE OF
CONCERN FOR RESPONSE TEAMS, BUT POSES NO IMMANENT THREAT TO PUBLIC
SAFETY A THIS TIME.

B. O/S WX: WINDS SW 5-10 KTS, 88 DEGREES F, MOSTLY SUNNY.

C. FACILITY DATA: ATOFINA CHEMICAL PLANT, 17168 WEST JEFFERSON,
RIVERVIEW, MI 48219.

D. SAR STATUS: NO ONGOING COAST GUARD SAR ACTIVITY

E. COAST GUARD RESOURCES SUMMARY: MSO DETROIT CO AND 9 ATLANTIC
STRIKE TEAM (AST) REPS ARE ON SCENE. 5 ADDITIONAL AST MEMBERS E/R.

F. RESOURCES AT RISK: NO ENVIRONMENTAL OR HISTORIC RESOURCES ARE
AT RISK.

G. ECONOMIC IMPACT: ATOFINA PLANT IS TEMPORARILY SHUT DOWN FOR
BUSINESS.

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



406661

H. KEY STAKEHOLDER ISSUES: ENSURING THE SAFETY OF WORKERS IS TOP PRIORITY. ASSESSMENT OF DAMAGED RAIL CARS AND LOADING RACK ONGOING, AS IS ASSESSMENT OF RISK OF CHLORINE RELEASE. AIR MONITORING CONTINUES.

I. HEALTH AND HUMAN SAFETY FACTORS: NO RELEASE OF HAZMAT IS TAKING PLACE. RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH ENTERING HOT ZONE ARE MITIGATED BY USE OF LEVEL B PPE.

J. MEDIA INTEREST: MODERATE LOCAL INTEREST.

K. CASUALTY INFORMATION: AS DESCRIBED IN SITUATION.

L. INCIDENT/UNIFIED COMMAND STATUS: COMMAND POST AT ATOFINA CHEMICAL PLANT STAFFED WITH GROSSE ISLE AND RIVERVIEW FIRE DEPARTMENTS, MSO DETROIT, AST, EPA AND CONTRACTED RESPONSE PERSONNEL.

2. ACTIONS TAKEN:

A. 14 2330Q JUL 01: FOSC DEPARTED INCIDENT COMMAND POST.

B. 15 0844Q JUL 01: FOSC O/S COMMAND POST.

C. 0900: UNIFIED COMMAND MEETING HELD. PLAN FOR AST AND SRS CONTRACTORS TO ENTER HOT ZONE IN LEVEL B APPROVED.

D. 0915: BRIEFED D9 CC AND M.

E. 0930: AST SET UP HAZMAT TRAILER

F. 1030: FOSC BRIEFED D9M.

G. 1241-1301: AST MEMBERS, DRESSED OUT IN LEVEL B, ASSISTED RP CONTRACTORS, SRS, IN DAYLIGHT ASSESSMENT OF DAMAGED RAIL CARS, SITE CHARACTERIZATION, AND ATMOSPHERIC MONITORING. 2 AST MEMBERS LATER TREATED FOR HEAT STRESS AND CHECKED OUT OK. DETERMINED LEVEL C ADEQUATE FOR FUTURE ASSESSMENT ACTIVITY.

H. 1445-1530: SRS MEMBERS CONTINUED SITE ASSESSMENT TO CHECK INTEGRITY OF EXISTING FACILITY PIPING SYSTEM AND LOADING RACKS.

I. 1600-1645: UNIFIED COMMAND MEETING. FACILITY PLANS NO RESPONSE OPS TILL LONG TERM PLAN IS DEVELOPED. ONLY ACTIVITY PLANNED FOR 16 JUL IS ENSURING SITE SAFE FOR NTSB INVESTIGATION.

J. 1715: FOSC DEPARTED SCENE. NO EVENING OPS PLANNED SO COMPANY CAN CONDUCT STRESS/GRIEF COUNSELING.

3. ADDITIONAL INFO:

A. CPN INFO: CPN C01124.

B. CPN CEILING \$10,000. EXPENDED: CG COSTS \$2500, CONTRACTOR COSTS BORNE BY PRP.

4. FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

A. CONTINUE TO MONITOR SITUATION, STRIKE TEAM TO CONTINUE ASSISTANCE IN ASSESSMENT OF DAMAGE TO TANK CARS AND FACILITY. WILL CONTINUE EPA AIR MONITORING TILL AM 16JUL01, AT WHICH TIME FOSC WILL DIRECT RP TO DEVELOP OWN AIR MONITORING PLAN.

B. CO'S COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS: SITUATION CONTINUES TO POSE MINOR THREAT TO PUBLIC SAFETY. ASSESSMENT CONTINUES. ANTICIPATE TERMINATION OF LARGE-SCALE CG OPS AM 16JUL01. WILL CONTINUE TO TRACK RP FUTURE PLANS USING LOCAL MSO RESOURCES.

C. CASE PENDS.//

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